
**Minutes
Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns
July 6, 2015**

Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS held on Monday, July 6, 2015, 6:30 P.M. at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural road, 2nd Floor Boardroom, Tempe, Arizona, 85282.

MEMBERS Present:

Chair Irene Mochel
Vice Chair Paul Bennewitz
Rachel Phillips
Diane Moran, by phone
Sarah Kader, by phone
Jeff Oats

MEMBERS Absent:

Ben Campbell
Tom Ringhofer
Kim W. Fisher

Guests Present:

Diversity Staff Present:

Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

Chair Mochel called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Public Appearances

No members of the public requested to speak.

Agenda Item 1 - Consideration of Minutes: MCDC – June 1, 2015 Minutes

The June 1, 2015 MCDC Minutes were APPROVED, with a sentence correction.

Motion: **Commissioner Paul Bennewitz.**

Second: **Commissioner Jeff Oats.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item 2 – Future Goals of the Commission Chair Irene Mochel

Discussion of long term goals identified by the 2004 Task Force and current CDC activity was presented with the goal of identifying top priorities for the upcoming year:

Long Term 2004 Task Force Identified Priorities

1. Require Universal Design / Best Practices for access in all new construction.
2. Make risk mitigation/safety improvements a capital improvement priority.
3. Increase accessible transportation options.
4. Increase accessible affordable housing options.
5. Promote disability awareness education for city and public.
6. Promote collaborations among private sector, government and disability organizations.
7. Support/encourage development of employment resources for people with disabilities.
8. Obtain parent /stakeholder participation in planning children's rec. and culture events

Current CDC Activity

9. Mayor's Disability Awards.
10. ADA Transition Plan improving access in Rights of Way, Parks and Facilities.
11. Access Tempe Guide update - online update of Tempe's accessible amenities.
12. Tempe Presents: White Cane Day. A Resource Fair to showcase resources/training.
13. Housing Review to identify and publicize locations of accessible affordable housing
14. Tempe Public Restroom Signage project highlighting accessible stalls

The Commissioners discussed priorities and the following were determined to be highest priority in the following order:

A. #10. ADA Transition Plan improving access in Rights of Way, Parks and Facilities;

B. #11 &13. Access Tempe Guide update - online update of Tempe's accessible amenities / Housing Review to identify and publicize locations of accessible affordable housing (To be combined in the Access Tempe Guide);

C. #9. Mayor's Disability Awards;

D. #12. Tempe Presents: White Cane Day. A Resource Fair to showcase resources/training;

E. #7. Support/encourage development of employment resources for people with disabilities.

Vice Chair Paul Bennewitz commented that one of his high priorities was “#8, Obtain parent /stakeholder participation in planning children's rec. and culture events;” but seeing all the priorities identified together made it clear that accomplishing the selected priorities, especially The ADA Transition Plan will have a cumulative effect on this priority and the others.

Agenda Item 3 – White Cane Day – Chair Irene Mochel

The details for the White cane day were discussed prior to the Commission meeting as it is an event that is being coordinated by the Diversity Department. Results:

- Save the Date Card draft: add the date BELOW “Save the Date” verbiage.
- Add a comma after white canes in the first line of text after “Save the Date”

- Cards go to Foundation for Blind Children for Braille Overlay week of Aug 13.
- Ensure cards are Mailed out the week of Sept 17, 2015.
- Commissioner Phillips indicated that Andrea Pasqual was a contact for Sun Sounds.
- Additional contacts will be added to the list by July 17th and vendor invitation emailed to list of vendors.
- The Commissioners will assist by calling vendors after the request email goes out.

Next meeting will be at 6 p.m. August 3, at the Tempe Library Board room.

Agenda Item 4 – Access Tempe Update – Staff Michele Stokes

Staff has contacted Michael Martin of the Tourism Office who worked on the old Access Tempe section on Tempe Lodging and Dining. Staff also contacted the Chamber of Commerce, Maryann Miller, and we will be working together to share information for the website.

Next month the website developers, a team of ASU Masters students (Kadeem Reynolds, Christian Whitehead and Sean Collins) under the leadership of Stephanie Deitrick, Tempe's Geographical Information System Manager, who have taken this on as their ASU Masters Capstone project, will have a draft available for review by the Commission. Current information is still being gathered – i.e. ASU Disability Resource Center information and city department contacts and the like, but its moving along!

The original concept of the online Access Tempe has evolved. It will be an app that is available on line with a web map format. It should also be accessible to those using screen readers as well. It will incorporate information from Transit and public domain information as well. Accessible Housing will become a part of it as we identify and develop it in the future. Also any Tempe disability service agencies we add will be included as well.

It will have the capability for the Diversity and IT Departments to update it when more needs to be added.

The ASU Team requested to present a draft of the website at the next meeting. Commissioners look forward to the presentation. Chair Irene Mochel asked the

commissioners if they would be open to giving the ASU Team an opportunity to have more than the usually allotted 15 minutes to present in order to allow them time to answer questions. And the Commissioners agreed.

Agenda Item 5 – Tempe ADA Transition Plan - Commissioner Bennewitz

Commissioner Paul Bennewitz reported the signed and executed contract has been received from Cole and processed by the City. A kickoff meeting to include departments affected by the first phase (Rights of way and Parks) will be scheduled later this month or early August by the Project Leader Cathy Hollow, Public Works Sr. Civil Engineer. Purpose: to discuss process and timeline.

Discussion was held that the CDC would like to receive quarterly updates from Cole on progress and concerns they face in writing or in person.

Discussion was held on what is the best way to get comment into projects and plans and ensure access on new projects with Rights of Way. Commissioners want to be made aware of projects and want staff responsible for those projects to present to the commission. Commission decided that this would facilitate a number of the goals adopted.

Agenda Item 6 – Tempe Public Restroom Signage – Staff Michele Stokes

Staff is in discussion with Martin Perez, Deputy Community Development Director, who will be testing out a demonstration, in a renovation to a restaurant/bar, to see how it conveys and estimation of cost. The demonstration pairs up the signage, with a large D handle so it is more prominent without having to feel around each and every door.

Commissioners recommended that there be a review to consider adding an inside door handle to facilitate closing the door. The little twist turn knobs on the inside of the door do not lend themselves to pulling the door shut.

Agenda Item 7 –Commission Annual Report – Chair Irene Mochel

A draft Annual report formatted as a brochure was approved by the commission

with the following changes:

- Move the former commissioners up to the list of “current commissioners”
- Change “Current Commissioners: to “Commissioners”.
- Remove abbreviations throughout the document.

Agenda Item 8 – Commissioner and Staff’s Announcements

Commissioner Rachel Phillips said that there was an employment fair on 7/7/2015 from 11 – 4 at the Disability Empowerment Center

The September meeting will be moved from the 1st Monday to the 2nd Monday, September 14, 2015 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

New Commissioners will be receiving an invitation to meet with the Diversity Director Rosa Inchausti in the next couple weeks.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. with a motion by **Commissioner Rachel Phillips** seconded by **Commissioner Jeff Oats**. Motion Carried.

Prepared by: Michele Stokes

Reviewed by: Rosa Inchausti

Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Director